

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

### Built Environment Education in the Museum and the City

Supported by the Beisheim Foundation

To accompany the exhibition 'Tony Fretton: Practice' (19 September 2026 – 3 January 2027), S AM Swiss Architecture Museum offers an educational programme for pre-schools, schools, higher education institutions, other organisations and after-school and childcare settings. Tony Fretton's architecture begins with a close observation of what is already there: places, buildings, materials, uses and social contexts all become part of the design process. Photographs, drawings, sketchbooks and texts reveal how he observes, develops and reflects on architecture. The educational programme takes this approach as its starting point. Participants observe, compare, draw, photograph and discuss. In doing so, they develop an awareness of architecture and learn to see their built environment from new perspectives. All activities can also be booked outside regular opening hours.

## IN THE MUSEUM

### Interactive Tour (60 minutes)

**How does architecture emerge from what is already there?**

Through a selection of projects, photographs and drawings, participants discover Tony Fretton's approach to architecture. Together, we explore what Tony Fretton notices in existing places and how these observations give rise to architecture that remains open to different uses and forms of appropriation. Short drawing, observation and movement activities offer age-appropriate ways of engaging with the exhibition.

Duration: 60 minutes

Booking: Mon-Fri, 8am-12pm | 1pm-5pm

Target group: Kindergarten to upper secondary level, higher education institutions, universities and day-care programmes

Cost (public schools / upper secondary): Free of charge

Cost (universities / international schools): CHF 200

Curriculum 21 links: NMG.7 BNE, NMG.8 BNA

### Workshop (120 minutes)

**Looking Closely – Observing, Drawing, Thinking Further**

What is already there – and what can we make of it?

Taking Tony Fretton's work as a starting point, participants examine details, materials, spatial situations and traces of use. Through drawing, photography, movement and small-scale design experiments, they explore Fretton's way of working: observing, taking what is already there seriously and developing their own ideas from it.

Duration: 120 minutes

Booking: Mon-Fri, 8 am-12 noon

Target group: Kindergarten to upper secondary level, higher education institutions, universities and day-care programmes

Cost (public schools / upper secondary): Free of charge

Cost (higher education institutions / schools from abroad): CHF 200

Curriculum 21 links: NMG.7 BNE, NMG.8 BNA, BG.1.A

# IN THE CITY

## Tours

### Tour 1: Reading the City

With sketchbooks and pencils, we explore Basel. Buildings, materials, routes, uses and unexpected sightlines become clues through which we read the city. Drawings and short activities sharpen our awareness of the built environment and of what is already present in a place.

### Tour 2: Art in Public Space

We encounter art in squares, on façades and along our routes through the city - sometimes striking, sometimes almost unnoticed. How does art change the way we see a place? On the tour, we discover works of art in public space and explore how they interact with architecture, use and their surroundings.

### Tour 3: Building Sustainably – But How?

The Lysbüchel site was long characterised by commercial and industrial uses and is now developing into a residential neighbourhood. How can this transformation be made sustainable? On the tour, we explore how existing buildings can be reused, adapted and extended, and consider the role that working with the existing built fabric can play in sustainable urban development.

### Tour 4: Erlenmatt Ost – New Forms of Living Together

How does an urban neighbourhood take shape? On the tour through Erlenmatt Ost, we explore current models of housing and living together. Housing cooperatives, communal forms of living and a variety of uses show how social and spatial questions can be considered together.

#### Applies to all tours:

Duration: 60 minutes

On request: 120 minutes including a practical component

Booking: Mon-Fri, 8am-12noon | 1pm-5pm

Target groups: Kindergarten to upper secondary level, higher education institutions, universities and day-care programmes

Cost (public schools / upper secondary): Free of charge

Cost (universities / international schools): CHF 200

Curriculum 21 links: NMG.8 BNE, RZG.3 BNE

## Bike Tours for Upper Secondary and Higher Education Exploring Architecture and the Built Environment by Bike

Duration: 90 minutes

Available: Mon-Fri, 8 am-12 pm | 1-5 pm

Target groups: Upper secondary schools and universities

Cost (public schools / upper secondary): Free of charge

Cost (universities / private and international schools): CHF 200

Themes: geography, the built environment, identity, socialization

### Introduction for Teachers – 'Tony Fretton: Practice'

Olivia Jenni, Head of Learning and Engagement, will guide you through the exhibition and introduce the educational programme and its range of activities.

**Date:** Tuesday, 22 September 2026 | 5.00–6.00 pm

**Free of charge**

### Project Work with School Groups

Would you like to connect a topic you are exploring in the classroom with a museum visit? We would be happy to work with you to develop an educational

activity tailored to your class and the questions you would like to explore.

## **Independent Visits**

If you would like to visit the museum independently with your class during regular opening hours, please register your group in advance.

**Cost:** groups of 10 or more: reduced admission (CHF 8 per person)

**Under 18s:** free

## **Contact**

For bookings and enquiries:

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Further information:

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